

**Maine Medical Center/ University of Southern Maine
Accelerated BSN Program
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Since 2009, Maine Medical Center Department of Nursing (MMC) and the University of Southern Maine School of Nursing (USM) have collaborated in the development of a pilot project to;

- 1) Increase capacity in the undergraduate nursing program,
- 2) Support the acquisition and development of clinical faculty, and
- 3) Strengthen the link between clinical and classroom teaching.

MMC is looking to ensure a workforce sufficient in both quantity and competence to meet the demands of a complex and increasingly technologic workplace. USM is looking to create a sustainable educational model which ensures quality of educational outcomes and has the potential to build a next generation of nurse educators. USM and MMC are also looking to develop a strong and ongoing partnership to provide opportunities for future endeavors, research, and scholarship.

The Pilot Design incorporates:

- Admission of 24 additional students into an Accelerated BSN Program in January of 2011 through May of 2012.
- Creation of a new Maine Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) prerequisite.
- A dedicated 200 hour Maine Medical Center CNA Course provided in the fall of 2010 at no cost to students.
- Creation of teaching teams comprised of academic faculty and practice based clinical experts supported by MMC.
- Redesign of the curriculum by academic and practice partners to build upon the CNA prerequisite with stronger integration of classroom, simulation, and clinical immersion experiences.
- Development of clinical experts as faculty.
- Research design.
- Ongoing assessments and supports.

Anticipated outcomes/benefits

This initiative is based upon a multi-year commitment which expands beyond year one. Faculty needs to support the teaching teams will progressively increase over successive semesters to provide for the increasing student capacity through 2013.